

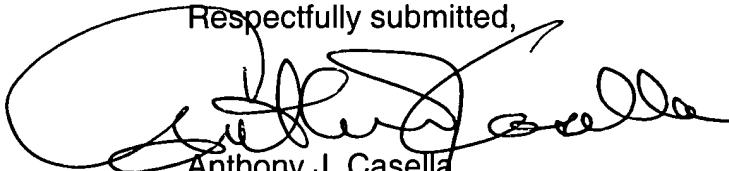
REMARKS

Consideration of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants, by their attorney, aver that the amendments to the specification are to clarify the specification and do not introduce any new matter. The amendments remove references in the original specification to the preambles of the independent claims.

Certain claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies and to conform to United States patent practice. The Examiner is urged to contact applicants' attorney at the number below to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony J. Casella
Atty. Reg. No. 24,095
Customer No. 001218
CASELLA & HESPOS LLP
274 Madison Avenue - Suite 1703
New York, NY 10016
Tel. (212) 725-2450
Fax (212) 725-2452

Date:

